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Grain and Feed EU Rice Weekly, Brussels May 31 2005

Approved by:

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Report Highlights:

This weekly report contains data on rice prices in the U.S. and the EU. It also lists current import duties in the EU. All information will be published as such in the USDA publication "Rice Market News".

Please note that the EU has changed its rice import tariffs from September 1, 2004, with a fixed tariff of EUR 65/MT for brown rice and EUR 175/MT for white rice.

On February 28, the EU and U.S. announced that they have come to an agreement over brown rice tariffs that may lead to the possibility of a lower brown rice tariff rate for US exports to the EU.

Includes PSD Changes: No Includes Trade Matrix: No Unscheduled Report Brussels USEU [BE2] [E3]

Weekly rice report - Brussels, May 31, 2005

LOWEST OFFERING PRICES Basis C&F ARAG (unless otherwise stated)

Whole Long-Grain – old crop prices for immediate delivery

	US\$/MT	US\$/100 LBS
UNITED STATES	Bulk	Bulk
2 Milled 4 pct *	306.44	13.90
2 Brown 4/73 pct	299.83	13.60
Medium Milled 2/4 *	308.65	14.00
1 Brown parb 4/88 **	314.16	14.25

^{*} F.A.S. basis

^{**} While nominal price quotes are for 1 BROWN PARB 4/88, these quotes in reality refer to rice that meets all U.S. No.1 requirements except for one or two categories. Current and historical trade practice is for rice shipped to the EU to be graded only as No.2 and to be further processed upon arrival.

	EUR/MT	US\$/MT	US\$/100 LBS
EUROPEAN UNION	Bulk	Bulk	Bulk
Spain, Indica, Paddy	178	222	10.05
Spain, Indica, Milled	410	511	23.20
Italy, Thaibonnet, paddy	190	237	10.75
Italy, Thaibonnet, milled	385	480	21.78
Italian Indica, 5%, milled	300	374	16.97
Italian Indica, 5% milled, sortex, parboiled	330	412	18.67

Prices on local markets (Italy). Italian Indica prices: basis - bulk, free on truck. Spanish indica price, delivered northern Europe.

Thai prices are available from FAS/Bangkok's weekly rice report via http://www.fas.usda.gov/scriptsw/attacherep/default.asp

IMPORT LEVIES, from 9/1/2004

	EUR/MT	EUR/MT	US\$/MT	US\$/MT
		ACP	General	ACP
1006 20, Brown/Husked	65	21.67	81.08	27.03
1006 30, Milled/White	175	58.33	218.30	72.77
1006 40, Brokens	128	41.18	159.67	51.37

Note: With the introduction of the new rice regime in the EU on September 1, 2004, the EU has changed the import tariffs for brown and white rice. Replacing the Margin of Preference system are fixed tariffs for brown rice of EUR 65/MT and for white/milled rice, EUR 175/MT.

^{*}Note: On February 28, the US and EU announced an agreement that may lead to the possibility of lower applied tariffs for brown rice exported to the EU. See www.ustr.gov for more details.

EURO/US\$ rate	1.24743

Source: FT, 31 May 2005

EU Import License Data

EU Rice Import license data is available from CIRCA, part of website of the European Commission:

http://forum.europa.eu.int/Public/irc/agri/igriz/library?l=/publicsdomain/rice&vm=detailed&s b=Title

Then click on 'Import of Husked rice to the EU' for license data.

From September 1 2004 to May 25 2005, total EU import licenses for brown rice that is not basmati totaled 274,611 MT. (Note the table below gives data to 24 May).

Period: Sept 1 to May 24

Marketing Year, Year to Date

MT		2004-05	2003-04
Paddy	Japonica	634	482
	Indica	367	252
Brown	Japonica	5,089	2,859
	Indica	471,704	481,662
	Of which - basmati	202,131.5	254,170.5
Semi-milled	Japonica	1,577	876
	Indica	2,383	15,212
Milled	Japonica	24,473	13,689
	Indica	114,817	63,928
Total, in milled rice equivalents	Japonica	29,873	16,811
	Indica	442,718	410,604
	Total	472,591	427,415
	Brokens	86,814	108,688

Source: European Commission.

http://forum.europa.eu.int/Public/irc/agri/igriz/library?l=/publicsdomain/rice&vm=detailed&s b=Title

Note: Import licenses, once requested are valid for the month in which they were requested plus a further two months. For example, a license granted on the 10th November would be valid until the end of January.

Note: 2003-04 year to date above is only for the EU-15.